

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 12 and 19 will be active in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled and the remaining claims withdrawn from consideration as directed to non-elected subject matter.

New claim 19, as presented above, directed to preferred aspects of the disclosure and is based upon previous claim 11 directed to preparing microcapsules containing an enzyme and, in particular, the preparation of a triple-layered microcapsule having an enzyme stabilized by a high molecular weight polyol in it. This is based upon the description of the invention found at pages 9-11 of the specification.

The dependency of claim 12 has been amended to depend from new claim 19.

New claim 19 emphasizes the inter-play between the high and low molecular weight polyols which explains the reason for selecting a high or low molecular weight polyol for various steps of the claimed method.

None of the documents applied in the current Official Action is reasonably suggestive of this feature nor are the rejections stated in items 3 and 11 of the Official Action (the only two rejections in the Official Action) pertinent to the subject matter now defined by new claim 19.

It would appear that the most relevant document of record is U.S. patent 4,898,781 to Onouchi et al. Onouchi generally at lines 30-52, and in particular at lines 50-52, lists the possibility of mixtures of the two types of different molecular weight polyols. This is simply a mention and there is no suggestion or reason given in the document itself why one of ordinary skill in the art would employ one or two members selected from the various groups of possibilities (of which there are many).

In contrast to the Onouchi patent, the present invention as defined by new claim 19 demonstrates there is indeed a reason for selecting the appropriately molecular weighted polyol at the relevant step in the process and to prepare triple-layered microcapsules containing an enzyme stabilized in them.

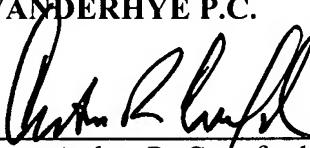
JU et al.
Appl. No. 10/716,877
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Reconsideration and favorable action are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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